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7 Attorneys for Defendant

ZAPPOS.COM, INC.

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10 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
11 FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
12 SAN FRANCISCO DIVISION
13

14 NCR CORPORATION, a Maryland
Corporation

15 Plaintiff,

16 v.
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18 ZAPPOS.COM, INC., a California
Corporation

19 Defendant.
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Case No. C-06-5599 WHA

**DEFENDANT ZAPPOS.COM, INC.'S
ANSWER, AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSES
AND COUNTERCLAIMS TO PLAINTIFF
NCR CORPORATION'S AMENDED
COMPLAINT FOR PATENT
INFRINGEMENT AND DEMAND FOR
JURY TRIAL**

1 Defendant Zappos.com, Inc. ("Zappos") files this, its Answer to Plaintiff NCR Corporation's
2 ("NCR" or "Plaintiff") Amended Complaint for Patent Infringement (the "Amended Complaint"),
3 along with its defenses, denying infringement of any valid and/or enforceable claims of the patents-in-
4 suit, and counterclaims.

5 **PARTIES**

6 1. No allegations are contained within paragraph 1 and a response by Zappos is therefore
7 not necessary. To the extent a response may be deemed necessary, Zappos admits that on information
8 and belief NCR is a Maryland corporation with its principal place of business located at 1700 South
9 Patterson Boulevard, Dayton, Ohio 45479-0001.

10 2. Zappos admits that it is a California corporation with its principal place of business
11 located at 2280 Corporate Circle, Suite 100, Henderson, Nevada 89074.

12 **JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

13 3. Zappos admits the Amended Complaint purports to state a claim for patent
14 infringement under the Patent Laws of the United States, 35 U.S.C. §§ 281 *et seq.* Zappos also admits
15 28 U.S.C. § 1338(a) grants this Court original jurisdiction over civil actions for patent infringement.

16 4. Admitted.

17 **STATEMENT OF FACTS**

18 5. Zappos admits that the faces of U.S. Patent Nos. 5,951,643 (the "'643 patent"),
19 5,991,791 (the "'791 patent"), 6,253,203 (the "'203 patent"), 6,480,855 (the "'855 patent"), 6,502,096
20 (the "'096 patent") and 6,519,600 (the "'600 patent") (collectively the "patents-in-suit") each identify
21 NCR as the assignee.

22 a. Zappos admits that the '643 patent on its face indicates that the patent issued on
23 September 14, 1999 and is entitled "Mechanism For Dependably Organizing And
24 Managing Information For Web Synchronization and Tracking Among Multiple
25 Browsers."

26 b. Zappos admits that the '791 patent on its face indicates that the patent issued on
27 November 23, 1999 and is entitled "Security Aspects Of Computer Resource
28 Repositories."

- 1 c. Zappos admits that the '203 patent on its face indicates that the patent issued on
2 June 26, 2001 and is entitled "Privacy-Enhanced Database."
3 d. Zappos admits that the '855 patent on its face indicates that the patent issued on
4 November 12, 2002 and is entitled "Managing A Resource On A Network Where Each
5 Resource Has An Associated Profile With An Image."
6 e. Zappos admits that the '096 patent on its face indicates that the patent issued on
7 December 31, 2002 and is entitled "Computerized Asset Management System."
8 f. Zappos admits that the '600 patent on its face indicates that the patent issued on
9 February 11, 2003 and is entitled "Computerized Asset Management System."
10 6. Zappos admits it owns and operates an Internet website at www.zappos.com.

11 7. Denied.

12 **FIRST CLAIM FOR RELIEF**

13 **(Infringement of U.S. Patent No. 5,951,643)**

14 8. No allegations are contained within paragraph 8 and a response by Zappos is therefore
15 not necessary. To the extent a response may be deemed necessary, Zappos denies the allegations in
16 paragraph 8.

17 9. Denied.

18 **SECOND CLAIM FOR RELIEF**

19 **(Infringement of U.S. Patent No. 5,991,791)**

20 10. No allegations are contained within paragraph 10 and a response by Zappos is therefore
21 not necessary. To the extent a response may be deemed necessary, Zappos denies the allegations in
22 paragraph 10.

23 11. Denied.

24 **THIRD CLAIM FOR RELIEF**

25 **(Infringement of U.S. Patent No. 6,253,203)**

26 12. No allegations are contained within paragraph 12 and a response by Zappos is therefore
27 not necessary. To the extent a response may be deemed necessary, Zappos denies the allegations in
28 paragraph 12.

13. Denied.

FOURTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF

(Infringement of U.S. Patent No. 6,480,855)

14. No allegations are contained within paragraph 14 and a response by Zappos is therefore not necessary. To the extent a response may be deemed necessary, Zappos denies the allegations in paragraph 14.

15. Denied.

FIFTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF

(Infringement of U.S. Patent No.6,502,096)

16. No allegations are contained within paragraph 16 and a response by Zappos is therefore not necessary. To the extent a response may be deemed necessary, Zappos denies the allegations in paragraph 16.

17. Denied.

SIXTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF

(Infringement of U.S. Patent No. 6,519,600)

18. No allegations are contained within paragraph 18 and a response by Zappos is therefore not necessary. To the extent a response may be deemed necessary, Zappos denies the allegations in paragraph 18.

19. Denied.

AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSES

20. Zappos incorporates by reference and re-alleges each and every allegation contained in its responses to Paragraphs 1 through 19 as though fully set forth herein.

21. The claims of the patents-in-suit are invalid for failure to meet the requirements of the Patent Laws of the United States 35 U.S.C. § 100 *et seq.*, including but not limited to 35 U.S.C. §§ 101, 102, 103 and 112.

22. Zappos has not infringed and does not infringe (either directly, contributorily or by inducement) any valid and/or enforceable claim of any of the patents-in-suit, either literally or under the doctrine of equivalents.

23. NCR's claims against Zappos are barred in whole or in part, by the doctrine of laches and/or by the doctrine of equitable estoppel.

24. NCR's claims for damages, if any, against Zappos is statutorily limited by 35 U.S.C. § 286 and/or § 287.

25. By reason of prosecution history estoppel, NCR is estopped from asserting a claim construction that would cause the claims of the patents-in-suit to be infringed by Zappos.

26. Zappos hereby reserves its right to supplement with additional defenses as discovery proceeds in this matter.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

27. Zappos denies that NCR is entitled to any of the relief requested in its Prayer for Relief against Zappos.

COUNTERCLAIMS

PARTIES

1. Counterclaimant Zappos.com, Inc. ("Zappos") is a California corporation with its principal place of business located at 2280 Corporate Circle, Suite 100, Henderson, Nevada 89074.

2. On information and belief, counterclaim defendant NCR Corporation ("NCR") is a corporation organized and existing under the laws of Maryland, with its principal place of business at 1700 South Patterson Boulevard, Dayton, Ohio 45479-0001.

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

3. The counterclaims include claims for declaratory judgment of patent non-infringement and patent invalidity, and jurisdiction is proper under the Federal Declaratory Judgments Act, 28 U.S.C. §§ 2201 and 2202, and the Patent Laws of the United States, 35 U.S.C. § 100, *et seq.*, concerning actions related to patents, and 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331 and 1338.

4. Venue is proper in this Court under 28 U.S.C. § 1391(c) and § 1400(b).

1 **COUNT ONE**

2 **DECLARATORY RELIEF REGARDING NON-INFRINGEMENT**

3 5. Based on the filing by NCR of this suit and Zappos' defenses, an actual controversy has
4 arisen and now exists between the parties as to whether or not Zappos has directly and/or indirectly
5 infringed any valid claim of the patents-in-suit.

6 6. Pursuant to the Federal Declaratory Judgment Act, 28 U.S.C. §§ 2201, *et seq.*, Zappos
7 requests a declaration from the Court that Zappos has not infringed and does not infringe (either
8 directly, contributorily or by inducement) any valid and/or enforceable claim of any of the patents-in-
9 suit, either literally or under the doctrine of equivalents.

10 **COUNT TWO**

11 **DECLARATORY RELIEF REGARDING INVALIDITY**

12 7. Based on the filing of this suit by NCR and Zappos' defenses, an actual controversy has
13 arisen and now exists between the parties as to the validity of each of the claims of the patents-in-suit.

14 8. Pursuant to the Federal Declaratory Judgment Act, 28 U.S.C. §§ 2201, *et seq.*, Zappos
15 requests a declaration from the Court that each of the claims of the patents-in-suit are invalid for
16 failure to comply with the provisions of the Patent Laws of the United States, 35 U.S.C. § 100, *et seq.*,
17 including but not limited to one or more of 35 U.S.C. §§ 101, 102, 103, and/or 112.

18 **EXCEPTIONAL CASE**

19 9. This is an exceptional case under 35 U.S.C. § 285, and as such, Zappos is entitled to
20 recover from NCR Zappos' attorneys' fees and costs incurred in connection with this action.

21 **PRAYER FOR RELIEF**

22 Zappos prays that:

23 (a) NCR's Amended Complaint against Zappos be dismissed, with prejudice, and that a
24 take-nothing judgment be entered in favor of Zappos;

25 (b) Judgment be entered in favor of Zappos declaring that each of the claims of the
26 patents-in-suit is invalid and that Zappos has not infringed any claim of such patent either literally
27 and/or under the doctrine of equivalents;

1 (c) Judgment be entered in favor of Zappos and against NCR that this is an exceptional
2 case and awarding Zappos its attorneys' fees and costs under 35 U.S.C. § 285; and

3 (d) Zappos be awarded any such other and further relief as is just and proper.

4 **JURY TRIAL DEMAND**

5 Pursuant to FED. R. CIV. P. 38(b), Zappos demands a trial by jury on all issues so triable.

6
7 DATED: November 30, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

8 TOWNSEND AND TOWNSEND AND CREW LLP

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10
11 By: /s/ April E. Abele
April E. Abele

12 Attorneys for Defendant
13 ZAPPOS.COM, INC.

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